

BLOOMFIELD PUBLIC LIBRARY

NEW EDUCATIONAL SERVICES FOR CHANGING TIMES



BLOOMFIELD BOARD OF EDUCATION
BUILDING SERVICE CENTER

*Annual Report of the Superintendent of Schools
Bloomfield, New Jersey*

1966-1967

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MEMBERS OF THE BLOOMFIELD BOARD OF EDUCATION:

Mrs. Frank M. Galioto, President
 Mr. John G. Severs, Vice President
 Mr. Harold V. Tyne
 Mr. Harold Brotherhood
 Mr. Vincent J. Biunno

Dear Mrs. Galioto and Gentlemen:

I am glad to transmit to you my eighth annual report. This has been another year of progress for the Bloomfield School System, particularly because our staff has been studying the reports of recent evaluations, and we are making efforts to implement the recommendations. We continue to make progress in our physical plant, and the promise of improved indoor and outdoor facilities for the Senior High School is a harbinger of greatly improved secondary programs. The enthusiastic interest and support of the Board of Education and the school staff have made the task of administrators more rewarding. The town government and the citizens of the community have further demonstrated their support of a good educational program.

Frank B. Stover
 Superintendent of Schools

Bloomfield, N. J.
 July, 1967

BLOOMFIELD PUBLIC SCHOOLS

1966 - 1967

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| Total Average Enrollment | 7,812 |
| School Buildings Operated | 17 |
| Supervisors and Principals | 20 |
| Teachers | 412 |
| Other Employees (full and part-time) | 183 |
| Day School Cost Per Pupil in Total | |
| Average Enrollment | \$662.11 |
| Day School Expenditures | |
| (without new buildings, etc.) | \$5,172,366.79 |



SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL

The outstanding note of the year was the purchase of the Park Avenue Presbyterian Church property to permit further expansion of the high school plant. While there will be temporary use of the buildings until permanent plans can be developed, the importance of this project cannot be understated since the report of the Middle States evaluation especially recommended the acquisition of any parcels of land near the high school. After the Board has made its choice of an architectural firm for the rehabilitation and expansion of the high school, there will be many months of study devoted to the project by the administrators and school staff to procure the greatest utilization and improvement of the total physical plant.

We are handicapped in many special areas for lack of space. For example, it has been impractical to expand the art program as much as we should like, and some students are denied this choice of an elective subject. We shall be adding some additional staff next year to alleviate the condition to a degree. Evidence of the interests of our students in art is illustrated by the student purchase of a marine still life as an addition to the Bloomfield High School art gallery, which is one of the few such galleries in the state.

The audio visual facilities of the school continue to expand. The most recent trend is toward the greater use of audio visual aids in individual classrooms rather than in large groups. The overhead projector and the tape recorder have gained in popularity. We have purchased new films in color and wide angle vision for the Drivo-Trainer. With the interest of large corporations enter-

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ing the field, such as General Electric and Time Magazine, we can expect more innovations and larger offerings in future audio visual programs.

One interesting illustration of the introduction of the audio visual aids is the experiment of the steno-laboratory used this year, as part of the experiment in conjunction with Montclair State College. Through the use of multi-track tape recordings, students are presented with the choice of dictation at different speeds, by different people and on different subjects. The instructor is free to instruct individually the work of each student.

Many of our students in the business education area were winners of state and national prizes. Seven of our distributive education students represented New Jersey at the national contest in Chicago, part of their expenses being paid by the cooperating businesses and individuals in our area.

The physical education department reports that 350 students completed the full driver program, including classroom instruction, Drivo-Trainer and behind-the-wheel. This does not represent all pupils who receive their driver's license, since some do not choose to take the behind-the-wheel course in school or wish to qualify earlier. Next year we hope to offer more of these courses to sophomores so that more pupils will be fully qualified before the beginning of their driving careers.

In the English department we note the increased use of paperback books, which is a national trend. This provides a greater variety of materials at lesser expense and provides for more reading of the originals rather than the condensed versions in anthologies. The department also reports an increased emphasis on spelling at all levels. Perhaps the most notable change was a 60% increase in the use of the library by the regular English classes and a 60% increase in circulation. This was due to cooperative planning by the library staff and the English department.

For the first time in recent years a course was offered in speed writing for the advanced placement section in English, since this particular group will be called upon to do greatly increased reading at the college level. The department continues to study developments in linguistics and has made plans for a fall workshop in this newer approach to writing and speech.

The foreign language department reports that for the first time this year all sequential levels of foreign language were in operation. This means that we offered subjects entitled French VI, German VI, and Spanish VI to pupils who had these subjects since entering junior high school. There has been some use of programmed readers in early language levels, improvements in the



NEW PHYSICS LABORATORY

scheduling of pupils so that they might be grouped with those of similar achievement in the language, and the continuing of the film festivals for our own and neighboring schools. Language clubs continue to flourish. The department has also been holding meetings with the foreign language departments in nearby secondary schools to exchange ideas in programming.

Not to be outdone by the "weight watchers" movement, the home economic department sponsored a club for the "Slim Janes." The girls discussed dietary procedures for losing or maintaining weight. Offerings in interior decorating were expanded, and Major Foods III was offered for the first time.

The second year of our program in cooperative industrial occupations proved as successful as the first. There were 26 training stations and 34 student learners who attended school part time and worked part time. Our Coordinator contacted 62 companies for placement and conducted over 300 visits as part of his supervisory function. This included supervising a number of student learners during the summer of 1966.

New equipment has been added to the industrial arts department over the past year and even further expansion of equipment is planned for the forthcoming year. There is a greater use of audio visual equipment in a number of the shops. Five of our students were winners in the North Jersey student craftsmans fair.

The rebuilding and expanding of the library continues at a rapid pace. It now houses over 14,000 volumes, more than 4,000 of which were added this year. Four hundred and sixty one classes visited the library during the year. Vacation loans this summer totaled 1,000 as compared to 200 a year ago. Total circulation for

the year was about 16,000. Additional work has been done in providing reserved lists, bibliographies and special help for students and teachers. Space continues to be a major problem.

Some revisions were made in the mathematics course of study this year. Particular stress was placed upon teaching more algebra at all grade levels.

Three hundred and twenty three students, or better than one out of six, participated in the vocal music activities of the school. Two succeeded in achieving membership in the all state chorus. The instrumental groups played at 25 affairs outside of high school. Two of our instrumentalists achieved membership in the all state orchestra and one in the all state band. As everyone who knows who has heard these groups perform, the music program at the senior high school is outstanding in all respects.

The most notable development in our science program was the opening of the new physics laboratories in March of this year. Both the teachers in this subject and the students put up with great inconvenience over the major part of the year pending the completion of these facilities, since they had to take their work in the administration building across from the high school. Next year a new earth science program will be offered on an elective basis. The expansion of science offerings will necessitate the hiring of an additional teacher. The purchase of new science texts, necessitated by the changing knowledge in this field, is contemplated.

Social study offerings in the high school continue to reflect the changing patterns in our hemisphere and the world. For instance, the department is planning additional specific units, (or the expansion of present units) for U. S History II. These include the Role of The United States as a World Power; The History of the Negro in America; Expanding Education; Problems of the Megalopolis. In this department also there has been increased use of the library and plans for more individual study by advanced students.

The newest program in Bloomfield Senior High School was that of the educable mentally retarded enrolled in a work study program. In this new offering there were four girls and ten boys enrolled, coming from Bloomfield, Nutley, Glen Ridge, Belleville and Cedar Grove. A full time coordinator worked with these students in the morning and supervised them when they went to a job or a trade school or another placement in the afternoon. During the year four students were added and four dropped out of school. The New Jersey Rehabilitation Commission furnished a vocational counselor who worked with their own teacher coordinator. The Commission supplied substantial financial as well as advisory support and provided leads for job opportunities and on the job

training at trade school placement. Where the placement involves on-the-job training the Commission pays part of the student's salary. The Commission pays full tuition for trade school programs. It also furnishes uniforms, textbooks, tools, transportation and lunch money, if the student's family shows financial need. The whole impetus of this program is to help these students find future full or part time employment so that they can be useful and self respecting members of society.

IN MEMORIAM WILLIAM WILLEVER



A loyal and devoted
teacher at Bloomfield
Senior High School
1930-1966

SOUTH JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL

South Junior, which has always had a wide scope of offerings in industrial arts, reports an even greater expansion. Interest in electricity and electronics has been growing, and it is significant to note that both boys and girls are interested in taking work in this field.

Experimentation in team teaching continues in a number of subject areas. Because of the addition of more microscopes, there has been increased emphasis on the exploration of microcosm, while at the other extreme there is much study of space and space travel. The school has a very active "flying saucer" club.

One new project has been the teaching of reading techniques to small groups of students. This project was conducted with the cooperation of the assistant director of child guidance and one of the elementary reading specialists.

The English department has been placing greater emphasis on writing. The study of linguistics has been of great assistance in bringing about improvement. Six ninth graders had poems published by the National Poetry Press in the anthology "Young America Sings."

The library continues to be the core of the school. For the first time a processing center has been established to catalogue books for both junior high schools and the elementary schools.

One of the outstanding features of this junior high school is the work of the welfare committee. Illustrations of their work last year were the following: 1. They collected over a ton of clothing for the "Save The Children" clothing drive; 2. They collected and sent over 400 books to the Sioux Rosebud Reservation; 3. They collected and rehabilitated toys for the Family Society's Christmas store. Pupils also purchased many new toys and donated them.

NORTH JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL

Science teachers in the seventh and eighth grade participated in large group instruction and team teaching. They reported much pupil interest in these methods.

The girls physical education department achieved a high level success in training girls in gymnastics and floor exercises. A number of girls competed in outside gymnastic meets throughout North Jersey and won a number of awards for excellence. A number of girls participated in Saturday field trips to various athletic events in the state.



ELECTRONICS SHOP AT SOUTH JUNIOR

The language arts department has continued to study the area of linguistics. The program will be gradually introduced as teachers become familiar with the field and materials become available.

During the past year for the first time there was a group of hard of hearing students at North Junior High School who received special instruction. This is a continuation of the program they had received at Demarest School. This is the only junior high school program of its kind in the County suburbs.

There were numerous changes in library staff due to circumstances beyond control. Because of the assistance of the library chairman at South Junior High School there was a reorganization of the library, resulting in increased use by many classes and a greater participation by all the faculty.

Next year because of considerable planning a pre-vocational program for boys will begin in both North Junior and South Junior High Schools. This consists of field trips, special materials, talks by persons from business and industry and visual aids. The improvement of other teachers, as well as members of the guidance staff, is a part of the program, which is to be aided by federal funds.



NEW ALL-PURPOSE ROOM
RISES AT BERKELEY SCHOOL

ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS

The elementary schools conducted self-study projects as a year long curriculum activity in lieu of traditional type curricular meetings. The Self-Study was a joint effort to improve the educational program at both the local school and townwide levels; a steering committee of teachers and principals and central office professionals was organized to accomplish goals set by the committee.

Each school organized for self-study in its own unique way. Selection of staff for area study responsibility was generally worked out by the school principal; curriculum chairmen were given full or part responsibility for assignment of staff in some schools.

Larger schools spread the work load among more staff than smaller schools and this factor had some effect on time needed for school groups to complete their work. The Townwide Steering Committee recognized differences in staffing and various approaches to the task and, therefore, set no time limit for completion.

Leadership among the staff was identified as work progressed and opportunities were given for such talents to be expressed. Interesting check list devices for gathering information were designed, or areas were completely open-ended and dependent on guide lines prepared in the central office. Areas of study were as follows:

Areas of Study

- Area I — Administration
- Area II — Supervision and Curriculum Development
- Area III — Instruction
- Area IV — Instructional materials
- Area V — Student Personnel
- Area VI — Plant site and equipment
- Area VII — Health and Nutrition
- Area VIII — Community relations

School groups completed the bulk of the study by May and school principals were able to report findings orally in early June. To date several written reports have been submitted; all final reports will be due in October.

Throughout the Self-Study period certain points concerning limitations of the study and the survey instrument itself were made and noted for the record. Among these were:

1. The self-study project was not an evaluation per se; it was a collection of professional opinions regarding staff perception of strengths and needs of the school and school system in the eight areas outlined for study.

2. Validity of some identified strengths or weaknesses reported at the conference were open to question because of infrequent responses. (Final reports will reaffirm opinion about some items. It is expected, however, that many may be reported only once.)

3. Because of the unstructured approach, there is an overlapping of responses by parents and teachers in various areas. (An item reported in several places by different respondents, however, seemed to lend more validity to it.)

A preview of self-study reports considered on a townwide scale would suggest several conclusions: (Final summaries will be available after October 1967.)

1. Reports by individual schools revealed growing differences in school populations and changing environments in school neighborhoods. Transiency within and from out of town was one factor accounting for community change; another was replacement of grown family units with younger parents having school age children. It would thus appear that curricular needs of children would be somewhat different in each of the ten schools.

2. There was a close working relationship among the school principals and the superintendent's office personnel on matters of carrying out policies established by the Board of Education, development of up-to-date curriculums, and recruitment and selection

of teachers. It was reported that central office direction in matters of curriculum change for improvement was a strength.

3. Classroom supervision by school principals was planned and conducted on a regular basis and resulted in desirable working relationships between school administrator and staff.

4. Classroom teachers recognized the importance of ancillary staffing to growth and development of children K-6.

5. Attempts to enrich and individualize instruction resulted in a growing demand for more duplicating services in the school offices.

6. Communication and development of lay-interest in schools were more successful in some schools than in others.

7. Home and school relationships were considered strong and a good means of liaison with the neighborhood.

The most important physical improvement was the beginning of the construction of all purpose rooms at Berkeley and Franklin Schools. The facility at Franklin School will also contain a new exit tower and two kindergarten rooms. With the completion of these structures it will mean that the program first proposed in 1954 to provide all purpose rooms for the older school buildings in town has been completed. These facilities have provided better programs in physical education, audio visual instruction and music and dramatics, as well as leading to greater utilization of the buildings for community and neighborhood use.



NEW ALL-PURPOSE ROOM AT FRANKLIN SCHOOL

Reading through the reports of the ten elementary schools, one is impressed by the variety of activities described. The use of new materials for instruction, the overhead projector, the expansion of the library, and the use of new machines for reading improvement are but a few of the improvements reported. Attempts were made in assembly programs to acquaint pupils with other departments of town government, developments in the exploration of space, or discussions by outside speakers on the dangers of narcotics or tobacco. A large number of teachers have been involved with reading experiments to discover ways to teach both groups and individuals.

Of particular interest was the experiment at Carteret and Oak View Schools in the teaching of the Initial Teaching Alphabet where children learn to read by an alphabet of 44 letters describing the various sounds in English rather than the traditional 26 letter alphabet. Progress in reading and writing in these two classrooms was unusual, and the experimentation will be continued next year in the second year to see whether the apparent benefits persist.

Along with North Junior High School, Oak View School will experiment next year with television and video tape recorder for experimental purposes. Several schools are using spelling and writing patterns based on linguistic studies to test their effects. Other schools are still retaining much of the "Do and Learn" experiences such as hatching chickens, planting trees, baking bread, or eating Mexican lunches as a part of their learning experiences. I could not help but be much impressed by the Junior Red Cross projects completed by one school. Certainly this reflects great credit upon the sponsor and school.

Collected and sent to the Children's Shelter (for art work)

| | |
|---|-----------------------|
| 426 wire hangers | 258 stockings |
| 28 balls of yarn | 356 pieces of jewelry |
| 278 toys | 520 cardboard rolls |
| 1 UNICEF Scrapbook for disaster area | |
| 8 Hallway Bulletin Boards | |
| Lap Robe (knitted by teachers for nursing home) | |
| Canceled stamps (paraplegics holiday) | |
| 4th grades — Letter to Vietnam | |
| 22 Friendship Boxes | |
| 1 Red Cross Film | |
| Red Cross Collection — nearly \$20.00 | |
| 100 Patriotic Place Mats — Veteran's Home | |
| Favors to Vineland School | |
| Favors to Multiple Sclerosis Hospital — Chester | |

Curriculum Committees

It would be impossible to recount in full the work of the twelve town wide curriculum committees in operation during the year. They are as follows:

- Elementary School Report Card Committee
- Elementary School Self-Study Steering Committee
- Fine Arts, Homemaking and Industrial Arts
- Reading Committee
- Teacher Evaluation Committee
- Mathematics
- Library Science
- Elementary School Music
- Educable Curriculum
- Home & School Curriculum Committee

Their work involved over 150 teachers and some parents, as well as administrators.

Projects for next year will include the revision of guides in science and mathematics in Grades K-6 and liaison committee between guidance and teacher personnel, a study of reading in the secondary schools, further study in linguistic approach, and some consideration of the future place of Industrial Arts and Home Economics in the total program. A classroom music guide for elementary teachers and a guide for advanced music classes in high school are also under discussion.

Planned innovations for next year include the following:

Elementary Schools

1. Initial Teaching Alphabet (Oak View and Carteret)
2. Triple Track Developmental Reading, Grade 4 (Fairview)
3. Individualized Mathematics Instruction (Brookdale)
4. Individualized Reading Instruction (Demarest)
5. Grouping for Instruction in 6th grade Mathematics (Fairview)
6. Video Tape recording (Oak View)

Junior High Schools

1. Introduction to Vocations (North and South Junior Schools)
2. Closed Circuit Video Tape (North Junior)
3. "Operation Rescue" (ungraded curriculum for slow learners (South Junior)
4. Mathematics for Technicians (South Junior)
5. Linguistics (final stage of pilot project (South Junior)

Successful paperback book fairs were held in elementary schools which grow in popularity each year. Our total circulation for elementary schools was 43,079 or approximately ten per pupil.

GEORGE MORRIS SCHOOL

This year George Morris School developed a work orientation group for pupils who will not go on to junior and senior high school classes, but who will enter sheltered employment at some later date. Although this is a small school there were six student teachers trained this year in addition to several college students taking special courses. The school has been engaged in developing study guides in the various levels of instruction for the special classes.

SCIENCE COORDINATOR

Our elementary science coordinator is one of twenty teachers who received a national award as an outstanding science teacher from the Instructor magazine. He is stressing more interest in outdoor exploration of natural phenomena, more oral reports and more research activities in science for older pupils. He has recommended boxing our science equipment in smaller units for greater portability. He has recommended that we develop a mathematics guide for elementary schools.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION

A junior high school health guide has been completed. The secondary school teachers have been studying sex education and how it may be included in our curriculum. The State Board of Education has issued a strong statement urging the inclusion of this subject in all schools. We have continued to emphasize narcotics education and tobacco education in all schools. In the elementary schools a "Stranger Safety Program" aimed at protecting children from child molesting, was presented by the State Police.

The coordinator reports that elementary basketball has improved sharply because of the addition of the all purpose rooms constructed in the past several years.

Next year we plan to introduce an enlarged fire safety program in the elementary schools.

The Athletic Department, with the aid, support and counsel of the Bloomfield High School Athletic Association, supervised the interscholastic program during the past year. All decisions regarding athletic policies were consistent with existing Senior High School and N.J.S.I.A.A. philosophies.

Several team and individual records were established during the past year. High School team records included the following:

1. The soccer team was Co-State Champion.
2. The bowling team won the North Jersey Interscholastic Conference.
3. Big Ten Championships were won by the basketball, soccer and bowling teams.

CHILD GUIDANCE

The new law for the handicapped greatly extends services for all types of handicapped pupils, including emotionally disturbed and those with special disabilities who may have to attend special schools within the state or adjoining states. One illustration of the scope of this law may be gleaned from the fact that our Child Guidance Department processed data forms for over 600 pupils or 8% of the pupil population of the school system. Over 60 staff members were involved in the processing of one or more forms.

The class for the neurologically impaired, which opened for the first time last year, will be expanded for the coming year to provide for a great differentiation between age groups. Classes of this type are increasing in number throughout the state, and usually present some problems of adjustment during the first year or two they are in operation.

The hard of hearing program, formerly only in the elementary schools, was extended to the junior high school this year. The preliminary survey indicates that the number of children with hearing handicaps has been increasing, especially in the pre-school group. Provisions will have to be made for these children within a local area setting. Newark is not accepting any new deaf children in its program.

Work study programs for older educable retarded children have been even more successful than anticipated. An especially close liaison has existed between the Child Guidance Department and the Rehabilitation Commission.

The chairman of Child Guidance and Special Educational Services was especially honored by serving as chairman of the Advisory Committee on Handicapped to the State Education Department and also served as the chairman of the Essex County Round-Table in Special Education.

The Assistant Director of the Child Guidance Department was particularly active in reading experiments in Brookdale, Demarest, Watsessing and South Junior High School. He predicts that we will be looking forward to a K-12 reading guide in the near future.

The department reports a decrease in court referrals during the past year. This is possibly due to the fact that more cases are being handled at the local level than previously.

IMPROVEMENTS IN THE SCHOOL PLANT (1966-67)

The most notable change in physical plant this year was the opening of a new Building Service Center in the fall of 1966. Well designed repair shops, adequate vehicle space and proper storage areas combine to make this service building a valuable asset to the school system. More efficient support activities by the maintenance department, building operation staff and grounds crew are the result.

Senior High School

Exterior woodwork was painted. The interior of the girls gymnasium was repainted. Brickwork was restored in several areas and sidewalks were rehabilitated. An unused fan room was converted to food storage use. A program of boiler retubing was begun.

South Junior High School

Defective sidewalks and curbs were replaced. Exterior waterproofing was carried out. Sanding and refinishing of classroom floors was continued. Corridor lockers were repainted. One of three boilers was fully retubed and a program of upgrading original mechanical equipment in the boiler room was begun.

Berkeley School

A ground floor meeting room was converted to a fully modern classroom.

Carteret School

The second floor classrooms were repainted, the roof was recoated and the main chimney was rehabilitated.

Watsessing School

The paved playground was resurfaced and a teacher parking lot was built at the east end of the site. A music room and an AVA room were established on the ground floor to make additional classroom spaces available on the first and second floors.

Fairview School

A chain link fence was installed across the rear of the school site. The school library was moved from the third to the ground floor.

Brookside School

Electric wiring was upgraded.

George Morris School

Interior painting was done.

Franklin School

A parking lot for teachers was built.

Demarest School

Exterior painting and masonry restoration were carried out.

Brookdale School

Extensive masonry restoration was completed. Electric wiring was upgraded.

Oak View School

The exterior woodwork was painted.

Administration Building

An acoustical ceiling was installed in the business office.

In addition, a grand total of 1,387 scheduled maintenance work requests were completed and 213 high priority jobs ordered by telephone were completed immediately.

All mechanical equipment in all buildings was inspected and a written survey report completed for each unit. These reports form the foundations of a long term preventive maintenance program now underway which is designed to upgrade the level and standardize the periodic service given mechanical equipment.

Open House

Because they believed that all the citizens of the community should be concerned with the educational facilities provided for pupils, the Board of Education had an Open House on Sunday, November 13, 1966. All school buildings, as well as the Administration Building, the new Service Center, and the Park Avenue church property, were opened to the public.

In a time of national and international crises, our best hope for the future lies in the best possible education of our youth. They will need our best efforts to cope with the challenges ahead.

F. B. S.



BLOOMFIELD BOARD OF EDUCATION 1967

Reading left to right: Mr. Vincent Biunno, Dr. Frederic M. Lavenburg, Assistant Superintendent for Instruction, Dr. Frank B. Stover, Superintendent of Schools, Mr. Robert E. Morris, Assistant Superintendent for Business and Board Secretary, Mrs. Frank M. Galioto, President, Mr. John G. Severs, Vice President, Mr. Harold Tyne and Mr. Harold Brotherhood.

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